THAT'S THE PRINCESS ERALITH I WAS TALKING ABOUT!

I HEARD SHE'S BEEN ON CAMPUS SINCE LAST YEAR AS A DIRECT DISCIPLE UNDER DIRECTOR GOODSKY.

WHAT!?
THE DIRECTOR IS INFAMOUS FOR NEVER TAKING ON A DISCIPLE!

THAT'S JUST HOW TALENTED SHE IS!

PLUS SHE'S DOWNRIGHT GORGEOUS... IT'S NOT EVEN FAIR!

PEOPLE SAY SHE'S SUPER COLD AND STRICT THOUGH.

WHO CARES...
I WONDER WHAT I HAVE TO DO TO GET HER TO EVEN LOOK AT ME?

GREETINGS, EVERYONE.

MY NAME
IS TESSIA ERALITH,
YOUR STUDENT COUNCIL
PRESIDENT.

FIRST AND FOREMOST,
CONGRATULATIONS ON YOUR
ADMITTANCE TO THE FINEST
INSTITUTE OF MAGES THIS
CONTINENT HAS TO
OFFER.

WHILE I AM
A FIRST-YEAR LIKE
ALL OF YOU,

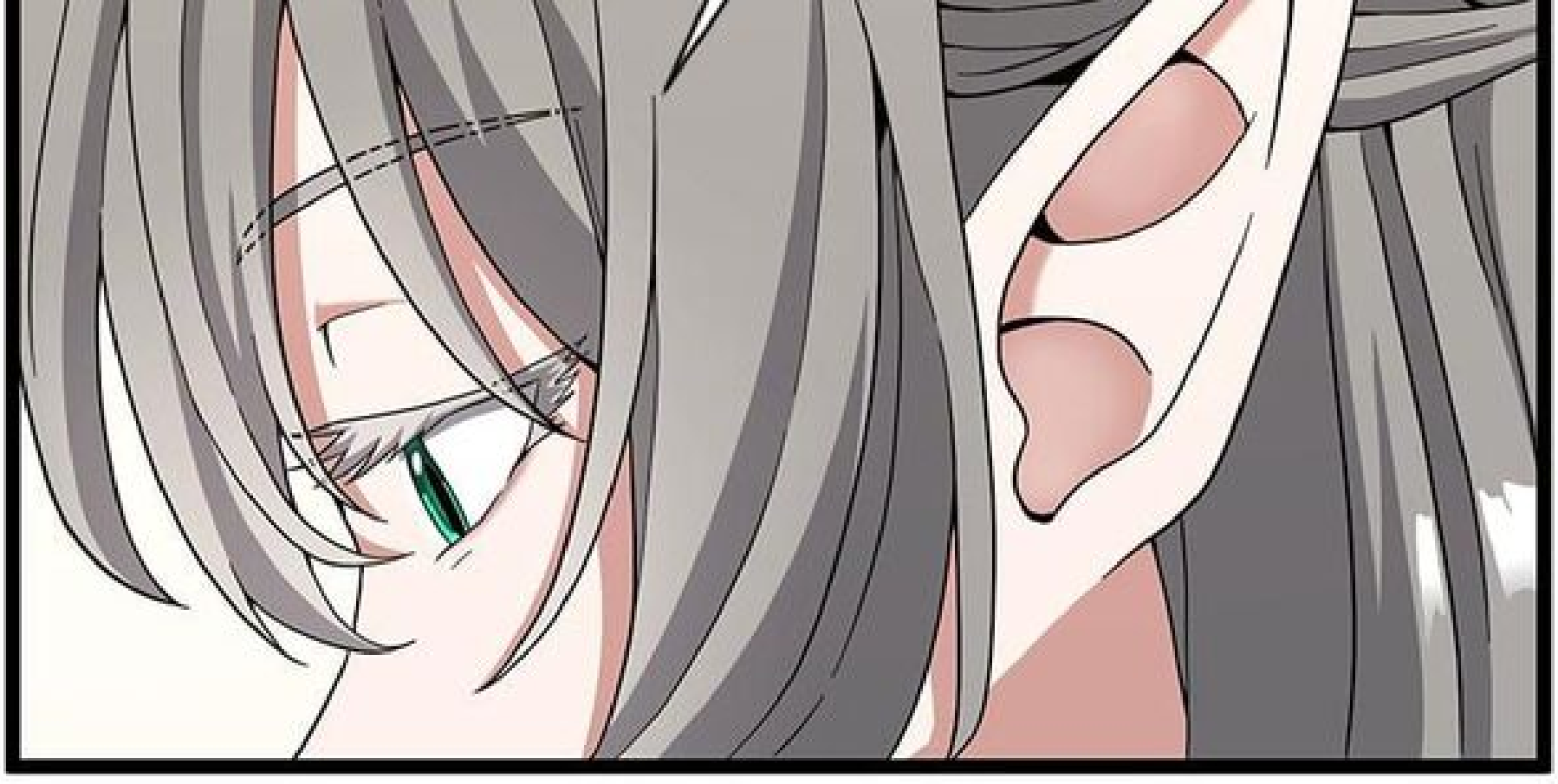
I HAVE
HAD THE PRIVILEGE
OF OBSERVING THE
ACADEMY A YEAR
LONGER.

ALONGSIDE THE LESSONS
AND BONDS FORMED WITHIN
THESE GROUNDS,

I'VE ALSO SEEN THE DISCRIMINATION SCHOLAR MAGES IN PARTICULAR HAVE FACED.

IF MERE DIFFERENCES IN UNIFORM ARE ABLE TO DIVIDE YOU,

I WORRY WHAT THE DIFFERENCES IN RACE WILL LEAD TO...



TODAY, I STAND BEFORE
ALL OF YOU, STUDENTS OF
THE NEW GENERATION,
AND IMPLORE YOU...

TO CAST ASIDE
THE MINDSET OF THE
OLDER GENERATION THAT
BRED HOSTILITY AMONGST
THE DIFFERENT RACES.

JUST AS THE ROYAL FAMILIES HAVE COME TOGETHER TO FORM THE COUNCIL,

WE SHOULD DO THE SAME AS THE FUTURE OF THIS CONTINENT!

YE

A

A

CLAP

CLAP

CLAP

CLAP

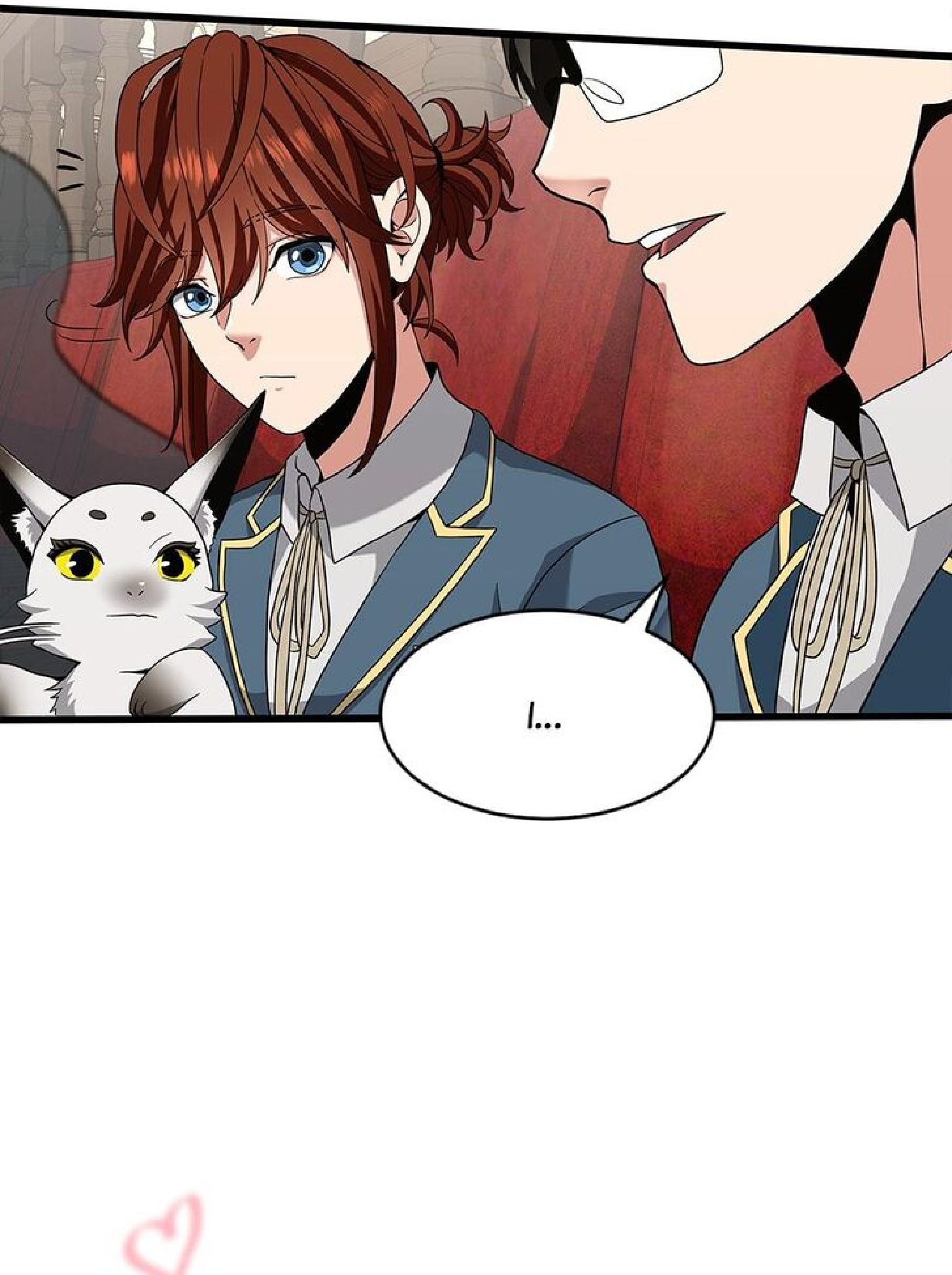
CLAP

PAPA!
THAT'S MAMA!
SHE'S DOWN
THERE!
GO SAY HI?

HEY!
WHY IS SHE
YOUR MAMA?

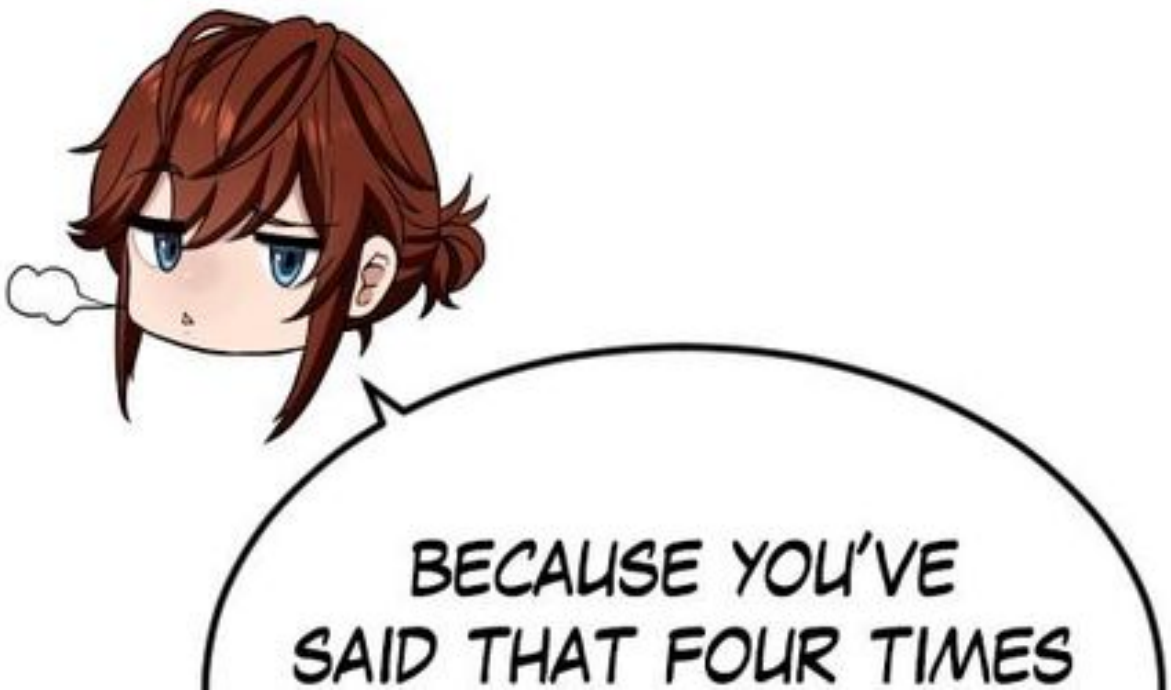
MAMA!

HEY, ART...


I...

I THINK
I'M IN LOVE.

WHY ARE YOU LOOKING AT ME LIKE THAT?!


BECAUSE YOU'VE SAID THAT FOUR TIMES

JUST ON THE WAY TO THIS BUILDING.

SHADDUP!
SHE'S DIFFERENT!

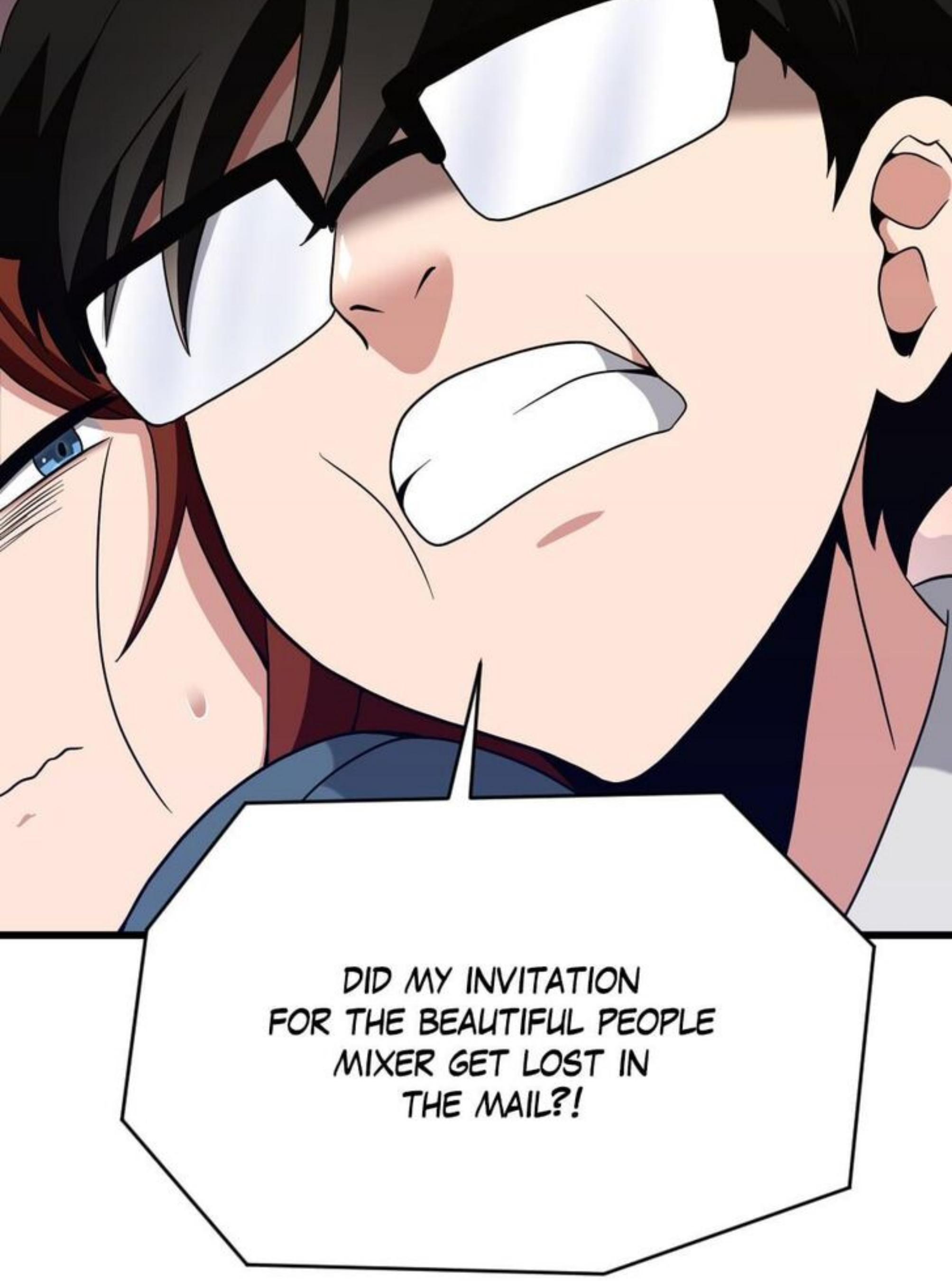
YEAH,

SHE DID CHANGE
QUITE A BIT.

HAAH?!
HOW WOULD YOU KNOW
HOW MUCH SHE'S
CHANGED?

DO YOU KNOW
HER TOO LIKE YOU
SOMEHOW KNEW PRINCESS
KATHYLN AND PRINCE

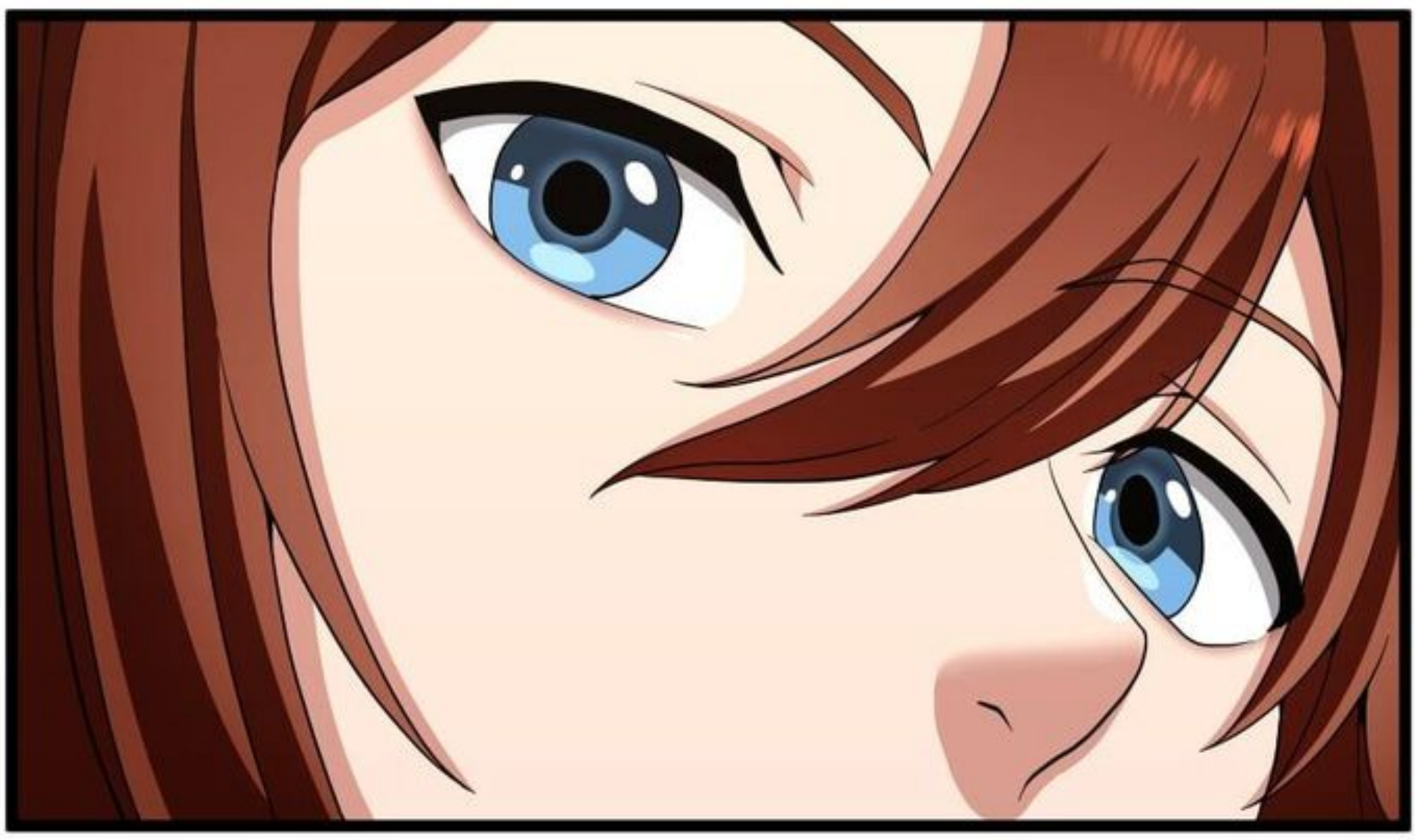
CURTIS?!?



DID MY INVITATION
FOR THE BEAUTIFUL PEOPLE
MIXER GET LOST IN
THE MAIL?!

GIVE IT A REST, YOU WEIRDO.

KYU KYU



THE BEGINNING AFTER THE END

STORY BY
TURTLEME

ART BY
FUYUKI23

PRESENTED BY
TAPAS MEDIA

QUALITY CONTROL BY
KISAI ENTERTAINMENT

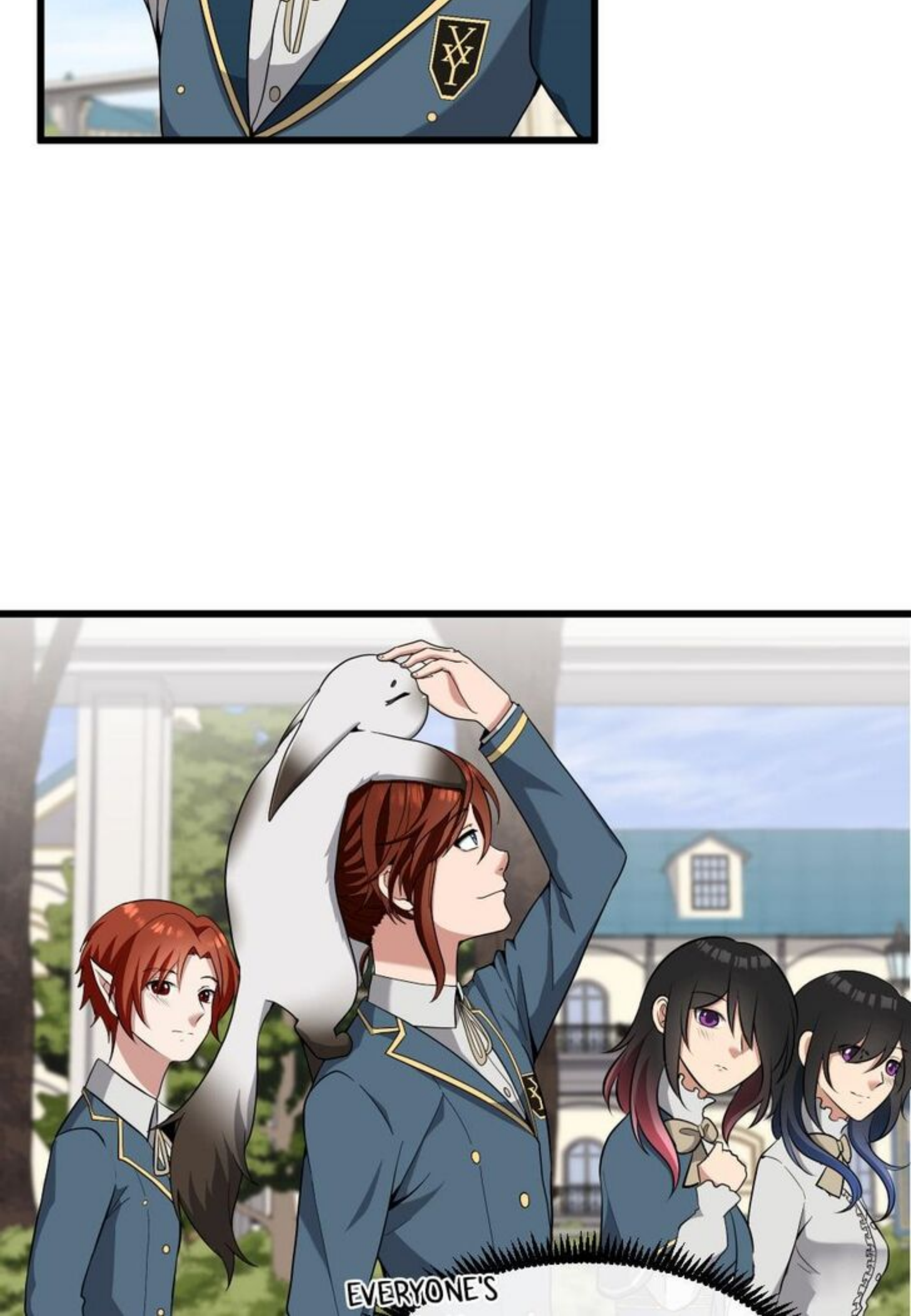
MAIN ASSISTANTS/ALKALENZ
STORYBOARD ASSISTANT/ORCATEA
COLORING ASSISTANTS/CHIBONIIE & YUEJI
LINING ASSISTANT/MIKAGE

PROJECT MANAGER
SERA SWATI

EDITORS
GABRIELLE LUU & AKY

YAWN

I KNOW THEY COVERED IMPORTANT STUFF, BUT MAN, WAS THAT BORING...


EVERYONE'S

STARING...

DOES HE NOT NOTICE OR DOES HE NOT CARE?

SUCH A WASTE...

HA!
GET REAL!

I JUST DON'T SEE
HOW A SHORT-ASS DWARF
LIKE YOU CAN EVEN HOPE
TO BECOME A REAL
AUGMENTER.

WHY DON'T YOU STICK TO FORGING WEAPONS FOR REAL WARRIORS LIKE ME?

WHAT THE HELL DID YOU SAY? WHO D'YA THINK YOU ARE?!

COME ON,
LET'S SEE WHAT'S
GOING ON!

BLATANT RACISM ALREADY...

LOOKS LIKE YOU'RE GOING TO HAVE A HARD TIME, TESS.

MY NAME IS *NICOLAS DREYL*.
WHY DON'T YOU DECLARE A DUEL, SHORT-ASS? OR ARE YOU ALL BARK?

TCH!
YOU'RE GONNA BE SORRY!

I, *BROZNEAN BOOR*,
DECLARE A DUEL BETWEEN

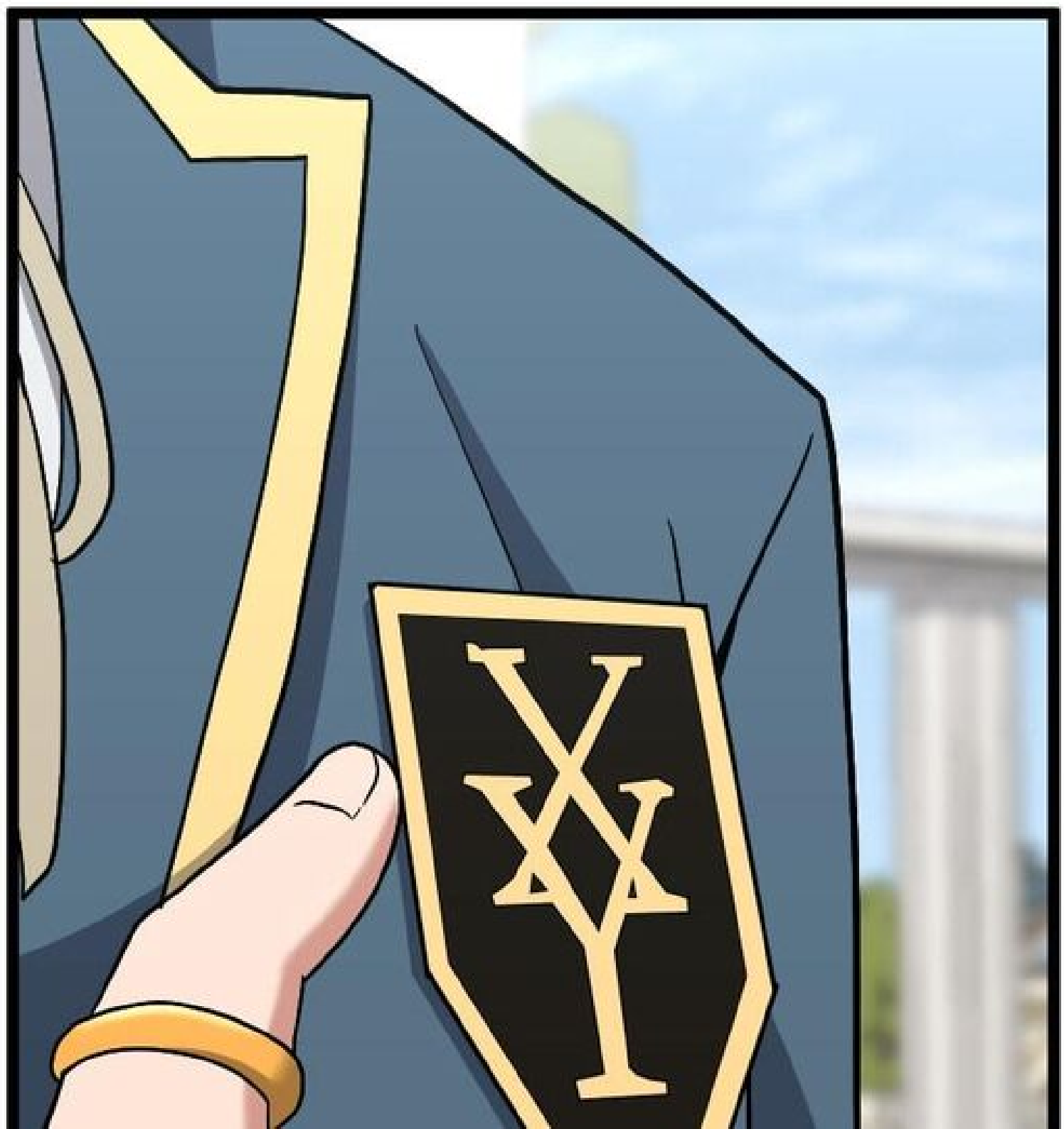
MYSELF AND NICOLAS DREYL!

I, NICOLAS DREYL,

GLINT

ACCEPT
THIS DUEL.

SO THESE ARTIFACTS
THE SCHOOL DISTRIBUTES
CAN CONJURE BARRIERS
AROUND THEIR USERS
FOR SANCTIONED DUELS
WITHIN THE SCHOOL.



HOW INTERESTING.

IWOOSH

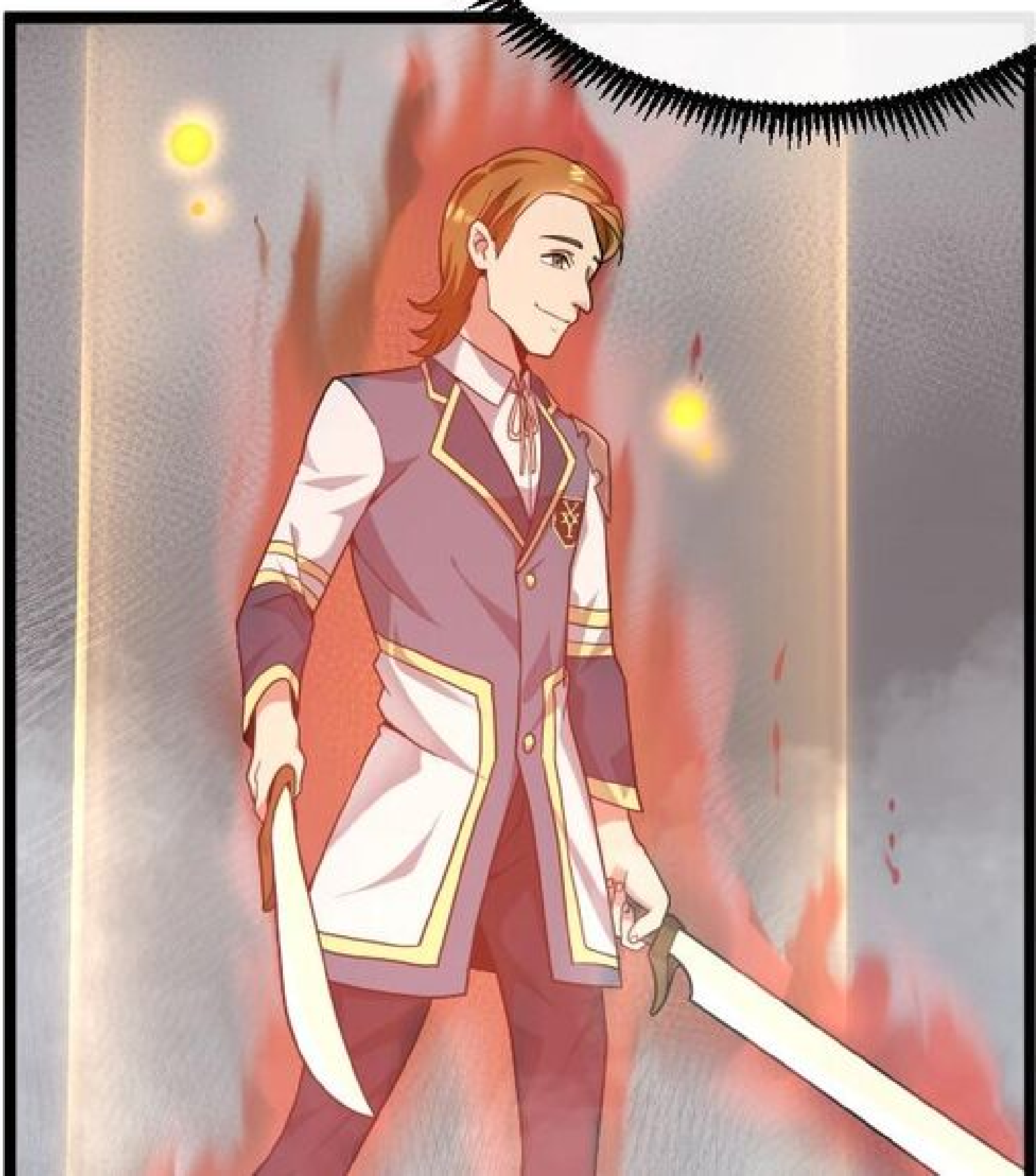
ZAA
WOOSH
ZAA

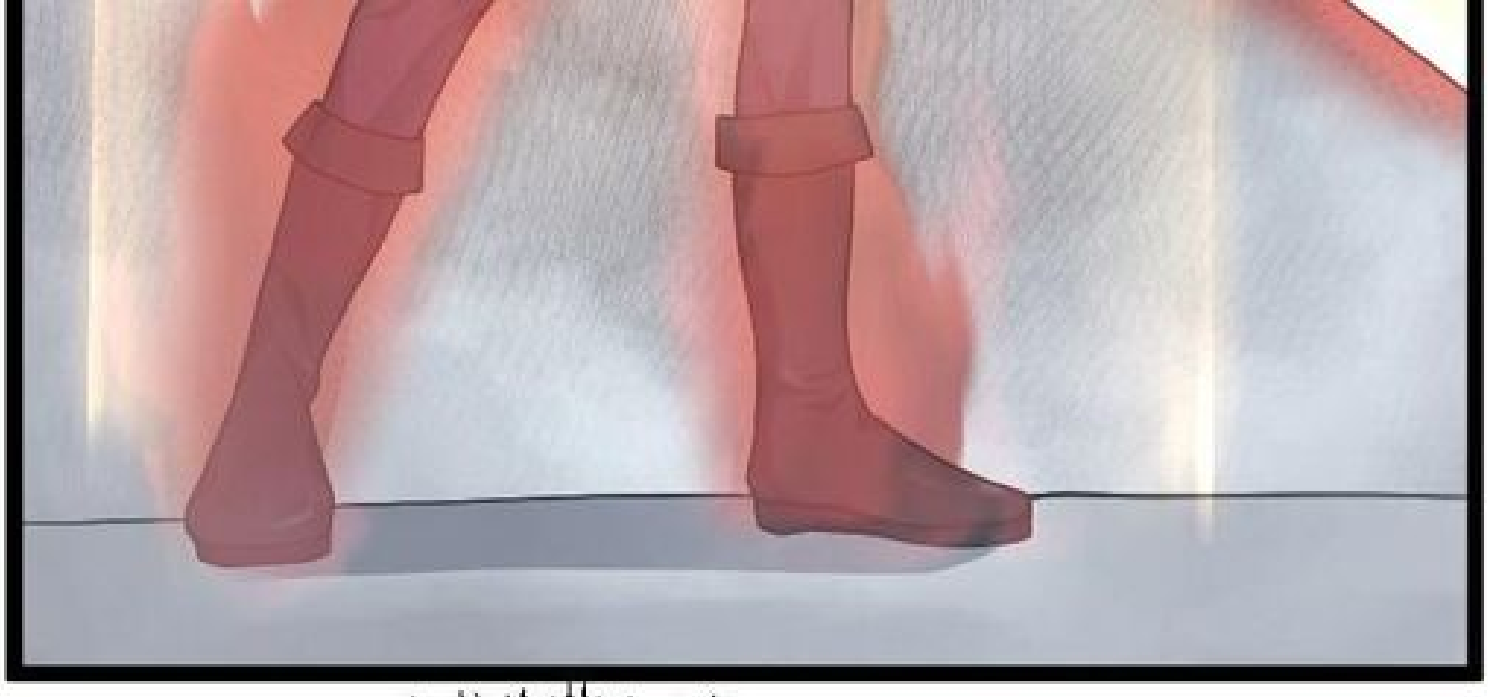
GO, BROZ!

...

CLINK

DARK RED CORE,





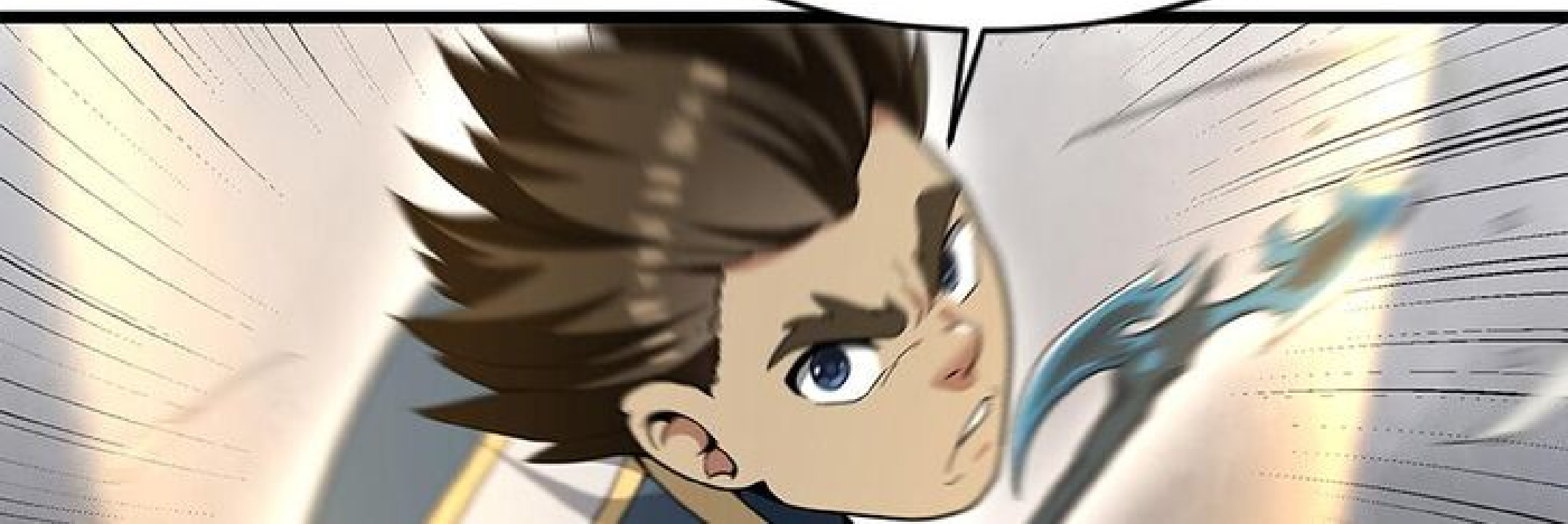
AND A BLACK CORE AUGMENTER.

LET'S SEE WHAT
THEY CAN DO.

CRAAK

WOOSH

HARNESS THE POWER
OF THE EARTH AND UNLEASH
THOSE WHO STAND IN
MY WAY!



GATHER AROUND
AND BE MY EYES
AND FEET

STAB

WHAT KIND OF
DULL BLADES
ARE THOSE?!

TO BE ABLE TO CONJURE EARTH LIKE THAT AS AN AUGMENTER WHEN HE'S ONLY A RED CORE MAGE SHOWS THAT HE'S NOT ONLY TALENTED BUT ALSO RECEIVED A LOT OF TRAINING.

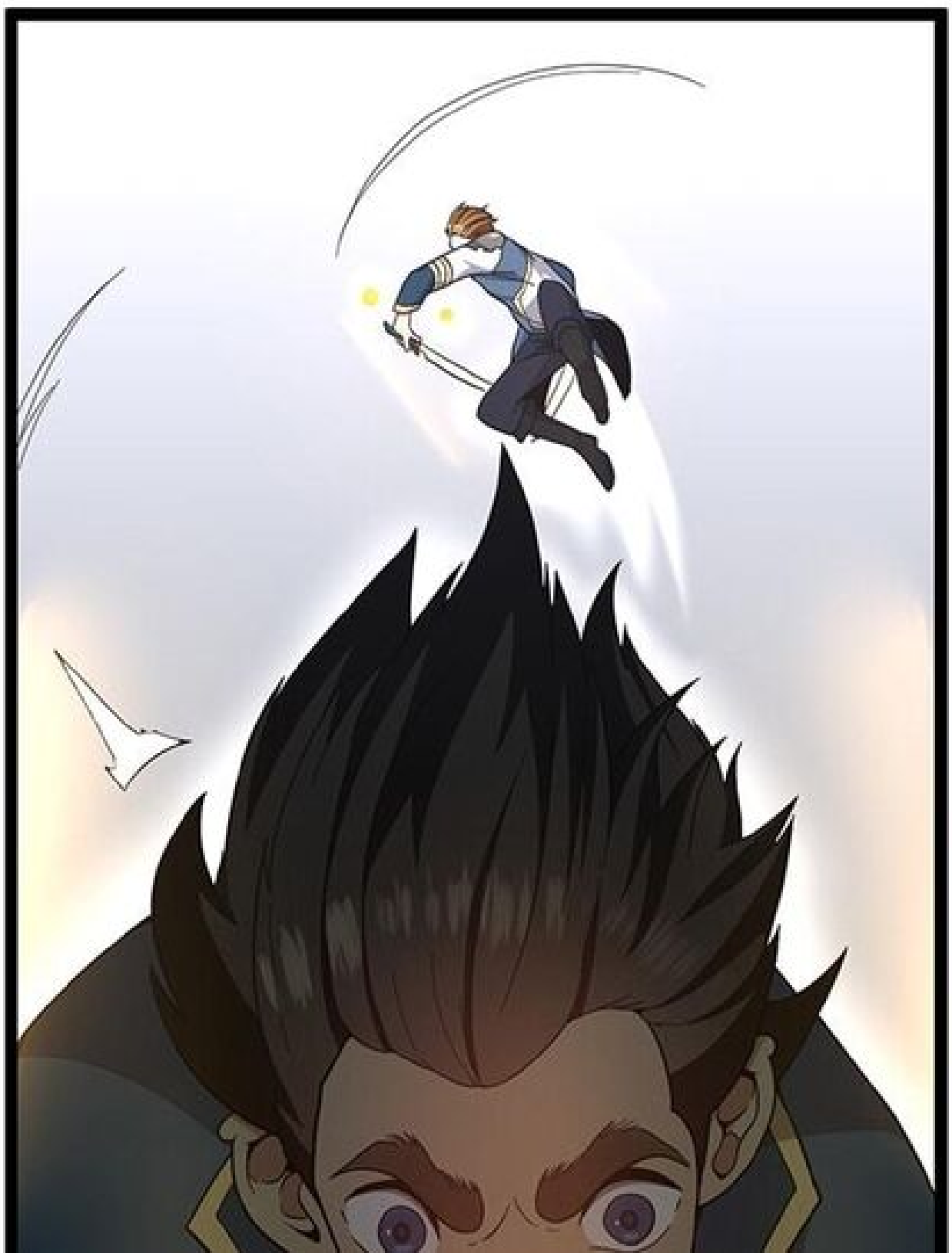
GRAAAHH!

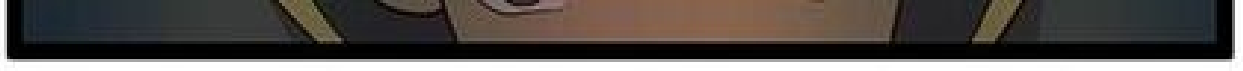
ATTACK

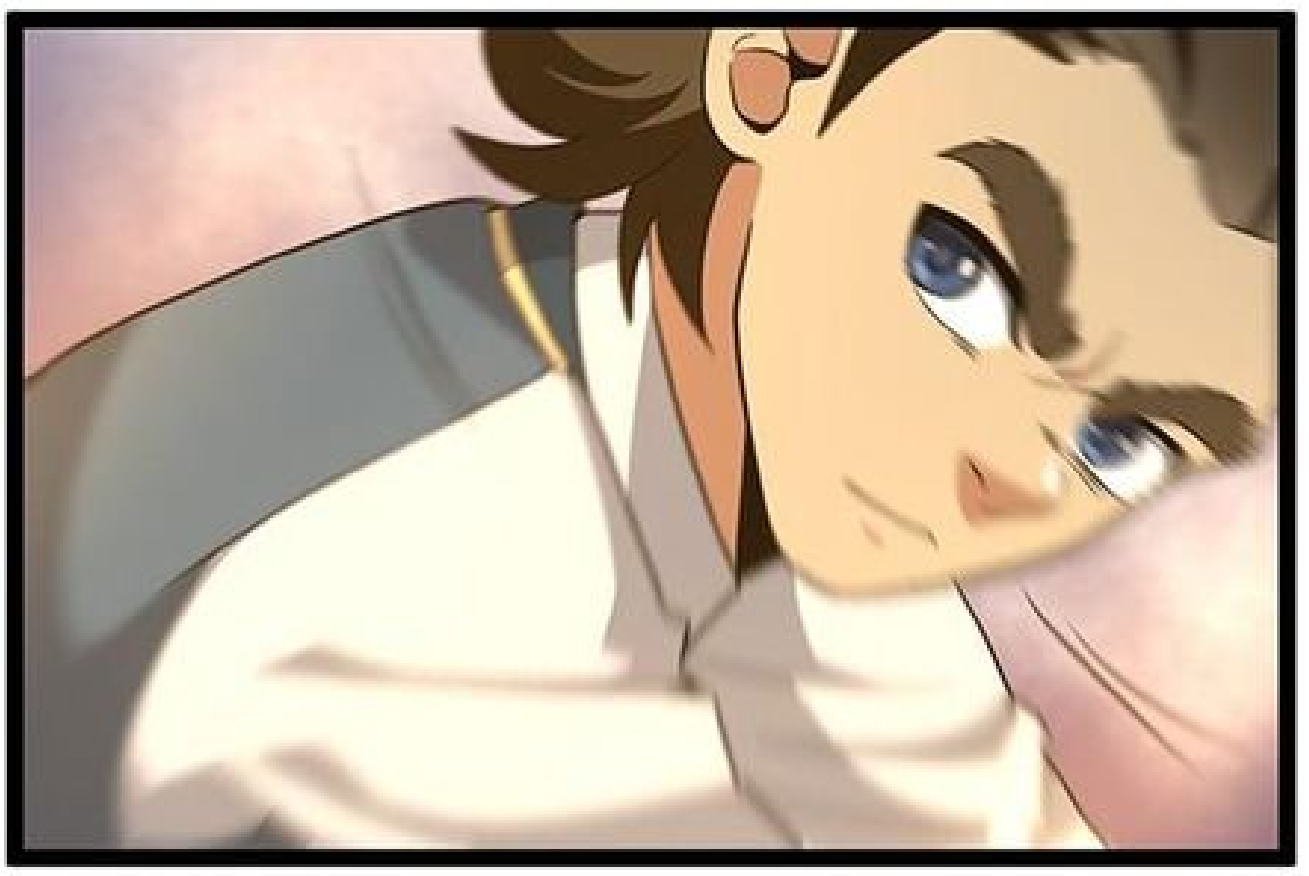
SWISH

CRACK

TRASH







GLA

PARRY

SLASH

TAK

SSHH

CHAK

SMIRK

STAB

WOOSH

SPLAT

YOU FIGHT LIKE A COWARD!

EAKH
KLAAP!!

GHAI

YOU SAY I FIGHT LIKE A COWARD?

SO WHAT?

A WIN IS A WIN, SHORT-ASS!

THE DUEL SHOULD BE OVER SINCE THE BARRIER BROKE, BUT...

I DON'T THINK NICOLAS PLANS ON STOPPING!

LET'S SEE HOW YOUR SCHOOL YEAR GOES WITH A SHATTERED ARM, FRESH MEAT!

THIS IS MY CHANCE TO BE A HERO!

OH NO...
IS THAT THE
STUDENT COUNCIL
PRESIDENT
I SEE?

KYU!

THE PRESIDENT?!
WHERE?!

OOPS,
I MUST'VE SEEN
WRONG.
NOD
YOU TOTALLY
RUINED MY CHANCE
TO SHINE.

YOUR CHANCE?
YOU WERE JUST
GOING TO BULLY THAT
SWORD-SWINGING KID--

ARE YOU PICKING
A FIGHT WITH ME,
SCHOLAR BRAT?

HOW DARE YOU
RUIN MY DUEL!

WHOA, MAN.
CHILL OUT...
DIDN'T YOU HEAR
IT'S NOT COOL TO
DISCRIMINATE?

AND BESIDES,
I'M PRETTY SURE
THE DUEL WAS OVER
LONG BEFORE THAT.

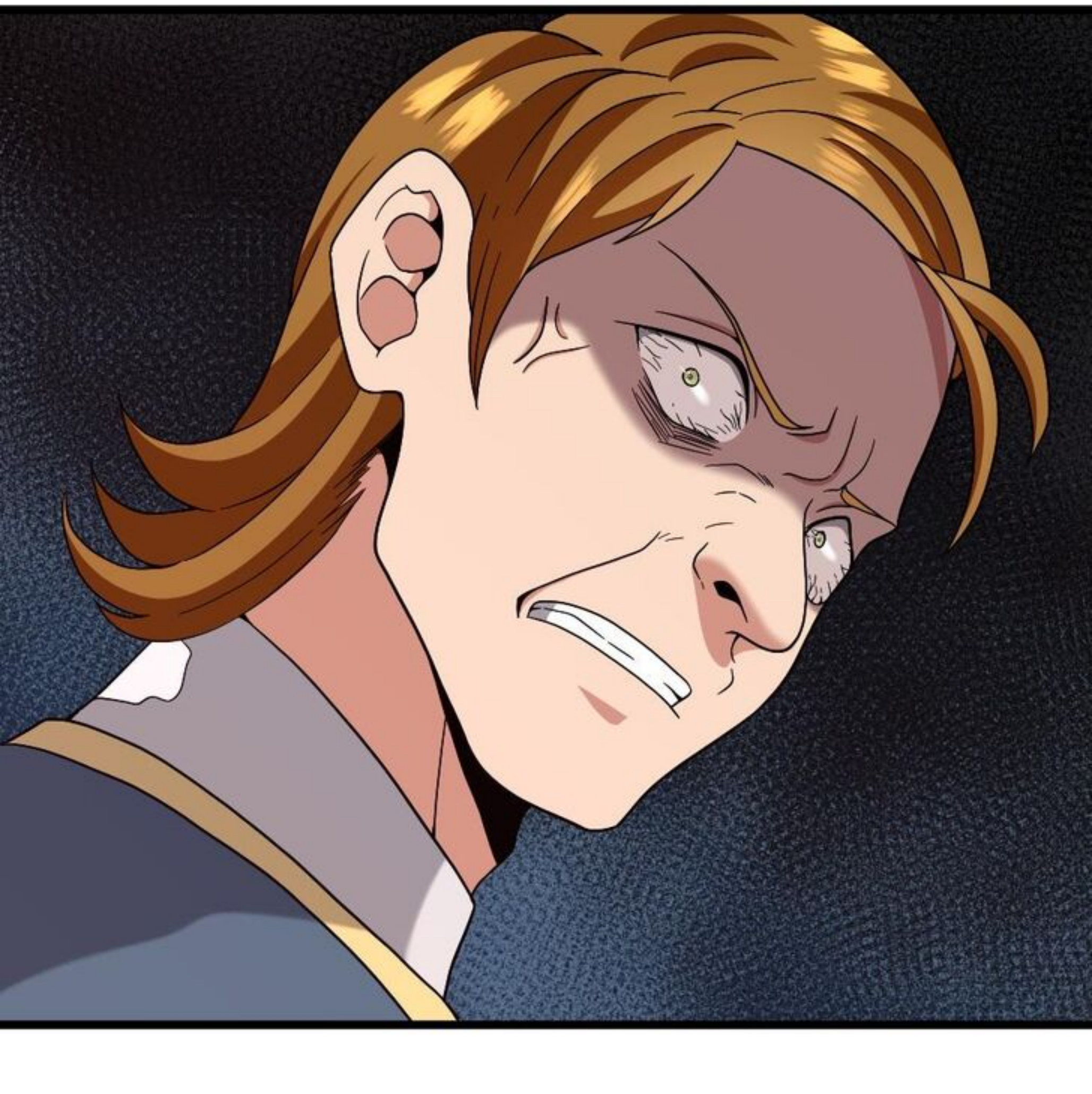
I DECIDE WHEN THE DUEL ENDS, SCRAWNY FIRST-YEAR.

I DON'T THINK THAT'S HOW DUELS WORK...

DON'T LET ME CATCH YOU BETWEEN CLASSES, BRAT.

SPT

SPIAK



KYUU...

THAT WASN'T ME...

YOU DARE--

DO YOU DARE?